

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

As a preliminary matter, Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 4, 7-8, 12-14, 16, 19-21, 23, 26-28, and 31-32 of the present application.

Summary of the Response

By the foregoing amendment, new claim 33 has been added. No new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1-33 are currently pending in this application and are subject to examination.

In the Office Action mailed on November 16, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-6, 18, 22 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,886,745 to Muraji et al. The Examiner rejected claims 9, 10, 11, 15, 17, 25, and 29-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muraji, et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,192,158 to Abousleman. The Advisory Action mailed on May 26, 2005, after the Applicants' filing of a Notice of Appeal on May 11, 2005, maintained the rejections. To the extent that the rejections remain applicable to the claims currently pending, the Applicants hereby traverse the rejections, as follows.

Claims 1 and 18 Recite Patentable Subject Matter

Regarding claims 1 and 18, Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in the Muraji et al., discloses or suggests at least the features of the present invention of "calculating a[n] . . . edge component" and "finding a range where pixel data on the interpolated pixel is settable on the basis of the calculated edge component and pixel data on the first and second original pixels," as recited in claims 1 and 18. In fact, although Muraji et al. shows detecting edge information, nothing in the reference discloses or suggests calculating an edge component and finding a range where the interpolated pixel is settable based on the calculated edge component, as recited in the present claims.

For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 18 are allowable over the cited prior art.

Claims 9 and 25 Recite Patentable Subject Matter

With regard to the rejection of claims 9 and 25, Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in Muraji et al. or Abousleman, taken alone or in combination, discloses or suggests at least the features of "calculating an edge component" and "finding a range where pixel data on the interpolated pixel is settable on the basis of the calculated edge component and pixel data on the first and second original pixels," as recited in claims 9 and 25. (Emphasis added). Applicants submit that Muraji et al. fails to disclose or suggest these features for at least the reasons stated above with respect to claims 1 and 18. Abousleman fails to correct this deficiency in Muraji et al.

For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that claims 9 and 25 are allowable over the cited prior art.

Claim 33 Recites Patentable Subject Matter

Regarding claim 33, Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in the Muraji et al., discloses or suggests at least the features of the present invention of "calculating, on the basis of pixel data for the first and second original pixels, an edge component" and "finding a range where pixel data on the interpolated pixel is settable on the basis of the calculated edge component and pixel data on the first and second original pixels," as recited in claim 33.

For at least this reason, Applicants submit that claim 33 is allowable over the cited prior art.

Claims 2-3, 5-6, 10-11, 15, 17-18, 22, 24 and 29-30 Recite Patentable Subject Matter

Claims 2-3, 5-6, 10-11, 15, 17-18, 22, 24 and 29-30 each depend from one of allowable claims 1, 9, 18 and 25, and, therefore, each of these claims incorporates each and every limitation recited within claims 1, 9, 18 and 25. It is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable at least for the same reasons as claims 1, 9, 18 and 25.

Claims 4, 7-8, 12-14, 16, 19-21, 23, 26-28, and 31-32 Recite Patentable Subject Matter

As the Examiner indicated in the Office Action, claims 4, 7-8, 12-14, 16, 19-21, 23, 26-28, and 31-32 contain allowable subject matter.

Conclusion

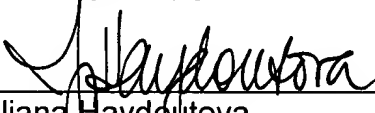
For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the claims now pending patentably distinguish the present invention from the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referring to client-matter number 107314-00020.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Request for Continued Examination Transmittal
Request for Examiner Interview Prior to First Action

JH:ksm